

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110848

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 01938 SENT SECSTATE INFO CANBERRA DACCA
ISLAMABAD JAKARTA LIMA LONDON MOSCOW NAIROBI NEW DELHI NOUAKCHOTT
PARIS SAN JOSE VIENNA YAOUNDE HONG KONG PEKING DATED MAY 23.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1938

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, BG

SUBJ: BANGLADESH MEMBERSHIP IN UN

REFS: A. USUN 1887

B. STATE 101911

1. BANGLADESH DCM FROM WASHINGTON EMBASSY A. K. CHOWDHURY
CONTACTED MISOFF IN NEW YORK TO DISCUSS BD'S UN APPLICATION.
HE EXPRESSED GREAT APPRECIATION FOR U.S. SUPPORT,
PARTICULARLY IO ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM'S COMMENTS,
REFTEL A.

2. CHOUWDHURY SAID BD UN OBSERVER MISSION AMBASSADOR
KARIM RETURNING EVENING MAY 23 FROM LONDON CONSULTATIONS
WITH BD FOREIGN MINISTER, AND HE DID NOT YET KNOW WHETHER
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KARIM WOULD BE GIVEN ANY LEEWAY ON DESIRED TIMETABLE FOR

SC ACTION ON BD'S APPLICATION. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, CHOWDHURY SAID HE THOUGHT DELAY UNTIL EARLY JUNE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO BD, BUT NOT THE 4-6 WEEK DELAY REQUESTED BY PAKS.

3. CHOWDHURY SAID PAKS SPREADING STORY THAT ARRANGEMENTS CONCLUDED FOR PRIMIN BHUTTO TO VISIT DACCA IN JUNE, AND THIS BEING USED AS FURTHER ARGUMENT FOR SC DELAY. (EARLIER, PAK REP TOLD MISOFF HE "UNDERSTOOD" THAT BHUTTO WAS VISITING DACCA NEXT MONTH.) CHOWDHURY SAID HE NEITHER COULD CONFIRM NOR DENY PROPOSED VISIT, BUT IN ANY EVENT IT EXTRANEIOUS FACTOR VIS A VIS SC ACTION ON BD APPLICATION. THERE NUMEROUS BD-PAK BILATERAL MATTERS TO BE SORTED OUT, AND BD RESENTFUL OF PAK EFFORTS TO DELAY SC ACTION APPARENTLY IN ORDER TO INTERJECT BILATERAL ELEMENT IN QUESTION. BD HAS FULFILLED ALL QUALIFICATIONS FOR FAVORABLE SC ACTION ON APPLICATION, AND NO LOGICAL REASON FOR DELAY HAS BEEN PRESENTED. FROM DOMESTIC POLITICAL STANDPOINT, CHOWDHURY SAID THAT MANY BENGALEES BELIEVE BDG HAD CONCEDED TOO MUCH IN TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT (PARTICULARLY BY AGREEING TO RELEASE 195 ALLEGED WAR CRIMINALS) WITHOUT GETTING ENOUGH IN RETURN. IF PAKS SUCCEED IN DELAYING SC ACTION, THIS WILL GIVE ADDITIONAL AMMUNITION TO BDG'S DOMESTIC CRITICS.

4. HERNDL OF SC SECRETARIAT ESTIMATED TO AMBASSADOR BENNETT EVENING MAY 23 THAT HANDLING OF BD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION WOULD NOW SLIP TO JULY. HE SAID MOST OF NON-PERM MEMBERS WERE LOATH TO GO AHEAD IN VIEW OF CHINESE SUPPORT OF PAKISTANI CAMPAIGN FOR DELAY. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION MALIK OF USSR DENOUNCED CHINESE TACTICS AND ARGUED STRONGLY FOR ACTION THIS MONTH. BENNETT REPLIED WE WRE READY TO GO AHEAD.
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UNQUOTE BROWN

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